



## **United States Mission to the OSCE**

### **Response to the Report by the OSCE External Auditor**

As delivered by Ambassador Julie Finley  
to the Permanent Council, Vienna  
July 6, 2006

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Well, Mr. Miller, thank you very much. You certainly have had a big responsibility for the last three years and we would most certainly like to thank you and the National Audit Office of the United Kingdom for its presentation today and for the offices' generous volunteer work over these past three years in evaluating the OSCE's, I'm going to inject, complicated management procedures and accounting practices. We are pleased that you have once again delivered an unqualified opinion on the OSCE's management controls. We look forward to a smooth handoff to the Norwegian audit team who has agreed, also with great generosity, to take over external audit functions. The Secretary General and the Secretariat deserve praise for their ongoing efforts to improve the OSCE's accountability to the participating States. We urge the Secretary General to review closely the Auditors' findings as well as recommendations made separately by the Office of Internal Oversight and to develop quickly a work plan for addressing any issues of concern highlighted in these reports.

Thank you again, Mr. Miller. Thank you again, United Kingdom, and thank you, Mr. Chairman.